



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

when they again appeared. In latter years they have been occupied by various individuals, generally for illicit distillation.

In the lake the horns and skulls of the Red Deer have been discovered at various times, and the head and horns of the Irish Elk are also said to have been found ; but for the latter there is no good evidence.

I should be inclined to consider that these Crannoges are not as old as those which I previously described as occurring in Lough Rea ; for in the Lough Rea Crannoges the piles and beams all appear to have been split, while in the Ballin Lough Crannoge the beams were undoubtedly cut with a saw. That there was an ancient settlement hereabout, and that it was a place of note, seems to be proved by all the ancient remains scattered about, which will be seen on looking at the Ordnance Map (*Galway Sheet, 125*), as within a mile of the lake are thirteen Raths and Raheens, eight Cromlechs, and one Holy Well (Tobermacduagh). All the Cromlechs and the Holy Well lie to the N.-W. in Marble Hill Demesne, the ancient name of which was Gortenacuppoge, *i. e.*, "The Field of the Leaves;" and most of the Raths and Raheens lie to the N. and N.-E., only three (which are Raheens) on the south.

At a more recent period it would appear that this neighbourhood was still a place of note, as about three miles to the north-east there are the ruins of an extensive abbey and castle, and a mile on the north are the ruins of a church and castle. The abbey may have been founded by St. Colman M'Duagh, as the Holy Well previously mentioned is dedicated to him.

I may here mention that Sir W. Wilde, in his list of recorded Crannoges in the Catalogue of the Royal Irish Academy, says :—" Even so late as 1610 we read of Crannagh Mac Knain, in the parish of Tynagh, barony of Leitrim, and county of Galway." I could find no trace of this Crannoge ; but I imagine its site must lie somewhere in the large alluvial flat and bog which occupies the country south and south-west of Crannagh, the seat of R. Nugent, Esq., which is in the parish of Tynagh, and barony of Leitrim, and lies about half-way between Portumna and Marble Hill. It is remarkable that, although it was inhabited up to so late a period, and that the descendants of the sept of the Mac Knavins still live thereabouts, I could find no tradition about it in the neighbourhood, and the only trace the name of Mr. Nugent's place. These flats and bogs, somewhere in which I suppose the site of this Crannoge to be, lie between four and five miles E.-N.-E. of Ballinlough, where are situated the Crannoges which the Notes just read refer to.

The following paper was also read :—

**NOTES ON A CRANNOGE IN LOUGH NAHINCH.** By H. B. TRENCH, Esq., and G. H. KINAHAN, F. R. G. S. I.

LOUGH NAHINCH, *i. e.* *The Lake of the Island*, lies on the junction of Tipperary and the King's County, the Crannoge being situated in the former, barony of Lower Ormond, parish of Ballingarry, Sheet 11 of the Town-

land Survey of Tipperary, and Sheet 135 of the One-inch Ordnance Map of Ireland.

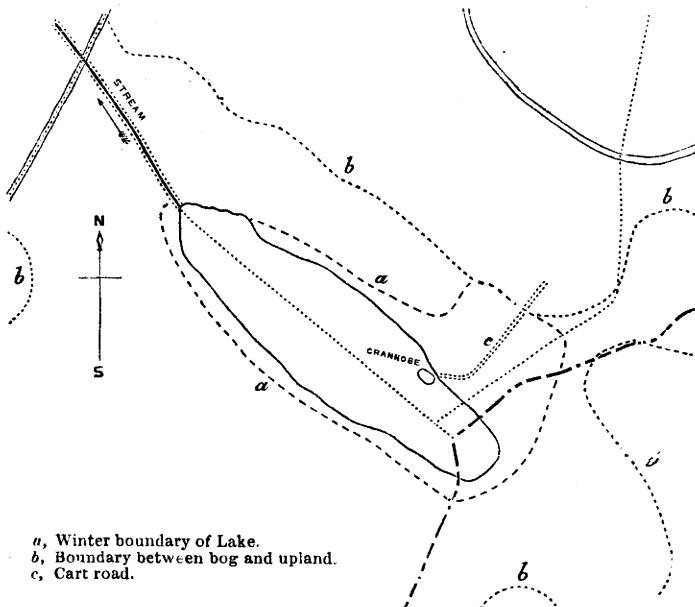
This lake lies in a large bog basin (*see Geological Map of Ireland, Sheet 135 and Map Fig. No. 1*), and was formerly much larger; but previous to the year 1812, its outlet to the N.-W. was lowered, and the land about it reclaimed. In winter its limits extend much farther than during the dry season, as the ground about it is low.

The appearance of the Crannoge has been much changed since the lake was lowered, as on its south shore a quay was built on which to land turf cut in the peat bog on the south, and many of the piles that surrounded the Crannoge have been removed, and its circular shape changed. Our attention was first directed to it by the following notice in Wakefield's "Ireland," which was published in 1812:—"In the highest part of this reclaimed land, which is about the middle of the old lake, there is seen a circular part, in shape the top of an immense tub, about sixty feet in diameter. The large planks which form the staves are from one to two feet broad, and about six inches thick, quite straight as far as it has yet been possible to trace them downwards. None of them have yet been raised without cutting them. At present there is no appearance of either ax or saw having been used in the formation of them."

When the island was visited in March and August, 1864, it was found to have shallow water all round it, except at the south, where the previously mentioned quay was built; on the east there is a track into the mainland (C *on Map Fig. 1*), that may also be of modern construction; at all events, it was used at the same time as the quay, and has been repaired from season to season, by laying branches and trunks of trees across it, and covering them with gravel. At the junction of this track with the quay at the S.-E. of the island, one of the old oak sheeting piles was remarked, the section of it being  $4 \times 12$  inches. On the north of the island more of these piles were noted, forming part of a circle; and from them, running S. and S.-E., are two rows of round perpendicular ash piles, 2·5 inches in diameter, that appear to have been parts of two partitions or walls that divided up the space inside the circle of sheet piles into rooms or habitations. On the N.-W. of the island, about three yards from the present shore, are also some of the circle of sheet piles, and between them and the land are, E. and W., beams about four feet apart, and about four feet lower than the surface of the island. There are also above these, and close to the edge of the island, irregularly laid logs of oak, on an average about five inches in diameter, mingled with large stones. On the S.-W. of the island there is a set of oak sheet piles bounding the end of the quay; these seem to have been recently put here, and may have been some of those mentioned in the extract before quoted, "that were raised" when the quay was built, and were redriven here to protect the pier. There are also a few other piles, but they are evidently modern, being round fir sticks, which appear to have been used to fasten the boats to.

## LOUGH NAHINCH.

Reduced  $\frac{1}{5}$ th from the Ordnance six-inch Map, equal to  $4\frac{9}{10}$ th inches to the mile.



The difference between the level of the water of the lake in March and August was only about a foot, or a foot and a half; and the island is of such a porous nature, that the water rushed in everywhere, and prevented satisfactory work; but we opened small excavations in various places, and found the general section of the island to be:—

General Section.	Ft. In.
6. Bog, . . . . .	about 0 6
5. Bog, ashes, bones, and nuts, . . . . .	" 1 6
4. Stones and large oak sticks irregularly laid, . . . . .	" 0 6
3. Peat, bones, and ashes, in which are oak beams lying in different directions, . . . . .	" 1 6
2. Nearly E. and W., oak beams, about four feet apart, . . . . .	" 0 6
1. Peat, wood chips, and bones, . . . . .	over 1 0
	<hr/> 5 6

From this it is seen that the artificial work, measured from the present surface of the island, is more than 5·5 feet in thickness. On the beams (*Bed No. 2 in Section*) there seems to have been a basket flooring, but of this we could not be certain, on account of the depth of water in

the excavation ; but in connexion with them we observed *wicker walls*, made of hazel rods. Where the wicker walls cross the oak beams, there were round holes through the latter for the stakes to go through. In the vicinity of these beams a small rude stone implement made of Silurian grit was found, but it was so rotten, that it broke while the dirt was being removed from it.

The beams in bed No. 3 were charred on the under surface as if they had been the beams which supported the roof of an edifice that was destroyed by fire ; near the north of the island, immediately over these charred beams, there was a N.-W. and S.-E. plank about ten feet long, twenty inches wide, and two inches thick ; at about one foot nine inches from its N.-W. end there were two holes through it, four inches by two inches, that ran north and south in a line with the north and south piles seen on the north shore, and on each side of the plank were upright stakes ranging in the same direction. In bed No. 5, near the centre of the island, a large heap of wood ashes was found, and innumerable quantities of hazelnut shells and a few of walnuts. The bones found in the different beds seem to be those of pigs, sheep, and cows.

From the facts we were able to collect, we may draw the following conclusions :—That the base of the artificial work is more than 5·5 feet below the present surface of the island ; that it was inhabited *at least* at two different periods, the first of these being when the east and west beams formed the floor of the habitations ; those habitations seem to have been destroyed by fire, which would account for the charred beams. After this period the oak sticks and stones irregularly laid were placed to form a floor for new habitations. Between these periods we must suppose that the waters of the lake rose considerably.

Within a mile of Lough Nahinch we find that there are the remains of nine *raths* and *raheens* in the county of Tipperary, and five or six in the King's County ; that there were more would seem likely, as the name of the townland on the south of the lake is Lissadonna, and yet there is now no trace of a *liss* or *rath* in it ; and in other places raths are said to have been levelled with the ground. The old castle at Ballingarry lies about a mile N.-W. of the lake ; it may have been built to prevent the natives from re-occupying their island home.

The Very Rev. the PRESIDENT read a paper

#### ON INSCRIBED MONUMENTS IN THE COUNTY OF KERRY

(Lately discovered by himself and his son, Mr. Alfred Graves).

THE monuments now brought under the notice of the Academy appear to be nearly related to a class which formed the subject of a paper read by Dean Graves to the Academy in February, 1860. The monuments then described exhibited inscribed circles, or groups of concentric circles, having at the centre small cup-shaped hollows, of from two to four inches